

4-29-1876

Letter from Anne Whitney, Paris, France, to Sarah Whitney, 1876 April 29

Anne Whitney

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Ramb. April 29 - 1876

My dear Sarah & home generally - I am rejoiced to know that the wedding passed off so satisfactorily to all concerned & that when you & Harry came back again you found mother in good health & with restored spirits - That was a great comfort.

In the more than year of my absence, not a letter that we know of has been lost. Think of it - more than a hundred letters -! The other day Adeline recd. a letter written by May last summer & directed in a moment of mental aberration (I suppose) to the care of Messrs. London. It speaks well for ocean travel that the mails are so regular -

I have a sort of impression that I shall not be so miserable on the voyage this time as on previous trips - I am perhaps wrong. I

desire to speak with much
modesty on this point. but I
think I made some progress on
the last voyage towards the solution
of the question why one is so unhappy
on the wave. & I believe it - to be
because one does not resign oneself
to the situation. I knew that from
the moment the ship & the billows
begin to carry on. an insane seas-
sick commences on my part. &
when the vessel goes down I go up.
& contrariwise. This makes a
singular confusion in one's ideas
of gravitation. & gradually this
confusion spreads through the
system. with what painful
results is well known. I have
determined in my own mind to
conform to that state of things
wh. the sea induces. & not to
exert myself vainly as heretofore.
So. have good hope of seeing us
plump & sea-legged on our
arrival as sailors are wont to be.
for thus far. the latter condition
is unknown to me - never having
had the luck to get off my land
legs.

We are gradually finishing

our purchases. & packing. &
look for 3 days of leisure to
see the Salon on. & then next
Wednesday night. to - for merry
England. It is a fact. which
may be against ^{not} nobles. not
Paris. that we have ^{not} been able
to acquire any affection for this
place. All the good & delight
of it centre in the Louvre & of
this we are trying to assimilate
as much as possible in order to
take ^{it} away with us. ~~as much as~~
~~possible of them~~. We began
a few days ago with a systematic
study of the Painters. but else we
make but slow progress among
these vast treasures.

I don't know if I told you that
Mrs. Hemmings goes over in the
18th May White Star ship. 2
days ^{after} us. We sh. not arrange
to go together for Ade took passage
in my absence. She has not yet
appeared in Paris. Still charmed
& fascinated by the seductions of Italy.
The word from Aunt E. Manning has
been better of late - rather - let's say

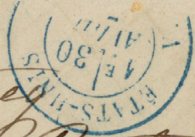
the last little spike of 3 days
of continuous improvement - &
yet with such symptoms of
pulse debility that they count
upon no permanent restoration.

How delightful it is that
our friends have had such
thorough recreation in Phil^a.
have bridged the ugly chasm
of March - (& April I trust)
& thus will be better able
to bear the dusty discomforts
of the rest of the season in W.
Boston.

Tomorrow - Sunday - we
have planned a farewell visit
to our beloved Louisa - & have
beside some last chores to do.
So - with assurance of our
good health & better spirits
if that were possible - I bid you
adieu - with London for
our next place of meeting.
With Ade's love - & mine
all -

Apr-30

76



Miss Anne Whitney
Rue & Hotel Jean Bart
Paris
France.

